

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	
)	
John BUTLER et al.)	Group Art Unit: 3733
)	
Application No.: 10/665,395)	Examiner: Ramana, Anuradha
)	
Filed: September 22, 2003)	
)	
For: WOUND RETRACTOR SYSTEM)	Confirmation No.: 4412

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicant brings to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination under § 1.114.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached Form PTO/SB/08.

Applicants are not required to provide copies of listed U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publications. Copies of the listed foreign documents are enclosed. English abstracts have been provided for JP 11-290327 and JP 2002-28163.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies the documents as prior art against any claims in the application and Applicant determines that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicant reserves the right to present to the Patent Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.



Dated: February 19, 2008

By: _____
Thomas Y. Ho
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